

**Meeting Notes from
Public Meeting of 11/16/04
South Lake Union Final Design Presentation/SEIS Meeting**

Audience Comments/Responses:

Please note that some responses were given at the meeting and some needed additional research. Where responses are known, they are included below. Additionally, some comments are clustered with others in the same vein.

1. Request to add more Native American characteristics, such as paving patterns, railings, benches, etc. Plan appears too generic – not “Seattle” enough, not maritime enough; details need more work; does not appear to mirror Seattle’s maritime heritage; consider a totem pole in the park.

Response: All these suggestions will be looked at in greater detail as we move into the next stage of construction documents.

2. Native American Carving Shed appears cut off on the other side of the waterway; consider moving it to the landform area.

Response: Carving shed and longhouse are on the west side at request of United Indians of all Tribes, per previous consultations during schematic design.

3. Need some space for activities connected with Native American culture, such as dances, potlucks, etc.

Response: Space for longhouse provided; also, the whole park is available for these activities, particularly lawn in front of Armory.

4. Concern that bridge cuts off space in Waterway 3 for festivals and boats to fill this space.

Response: Nearshore at south and west sides of Waterway 3 is reserved for habitat; bridge is 12’ high clearance—enough to get smaller boats into the lagoon; landing/small craft tie-up areas are north of bridge on either side of waterway.

5. Model boat pond – who uses it?

Response: many groups—we have been contacted by over 5; Center for Wooden Boats has program centered around model boats.

6. *Wawona* – there does not seem to be a place for the *Wawona* in the park in its current condition, that is, in the process of being worked on; no place to show people what’s involved in restoration of this old ship; no blacksmith, carpentry shop or forge area; no place to store tools, etc. Without the *Wawona* as its main attraction, there is no maritime heritage feel to the park.

Response: City is working with County to develop shipyard—place for historic vessels to moor while they are being restored—across the lake. There is room for a large vessel, such as the *Wawona* at the park.

7. Will the ship be safe at its new moorage; can it be safely moved? Wouldn’t it cost a couple million dollars to move? Where is the money to come from?

Response: The *Wawona* is owned by Northwest Seaport and they would need to raise the money to move it. City and Parks do not have money budgeted for this. See above note regarding City working with County to find moorage across the lake.

8. It was noted that Baltimore has a working seaport next to a large mall and that this works to bring in many, many tourists.

Response: Programming of the elements within the park will depend on future decisions. One goal of the park design was to be able to accommodate these future programs and uses.

9. Label plans to include references to historic ships wharf and include reference to historic ships wharf when referring to the park. (*Response:* Noted.)

10. Parking – what is status?

Response: 30 spaces are permanently in the plan near the Armory for special needs parking/event parking. Parking on Westlake will remain; interim lot to have 40 spaces;

- as buildings develop across the street, parking will be made available to public. Parking study is currently underway.)
11. Delay finalizing this plan until maritime heritage groups can put together a plan for various areas.
Response: plan has not changed significantly since schematic design, which has been reviewed and approved; there do not appear to be any park elements that prohibit the park or space from being more intensely maritime-heritage focused—it depends on what kind of programming is put together/proposed to Parks. Construction documents are being put together and construction phasing alternatives are being worked on.
12. Have more design meetings.
Response: To date, 6 workshops have been held to come up with the design that is before you. Additionally, a group of stakeholders have met several times to review schematic design elements. Another meeting is planned for the SEIS. If people have specific comments regarding the current park design, they can be aired then. Project Manager will set for early December.)
13. There do not appear to be any places to take cover in the rain—it's all very open. Are there any covered areas or benches?
Response: Not at this time.
14. There do not seem to be enough restrooms. Are the only restrooms inside the Armory? It's a long ways from the rest of many parts of the park.
Response: The main restrooms for the park will be inside the Armory; other restroom locations could be explored, such as at the Center for Wooden Boats shop or a place on the west side, which would also function as a storage shed for park maintenance tools. Those decisions not yet finalized.
15. Can people visit the park by boat?
Response: Yes. Beach and dock on west side allow for small personal watercraft launching and landing; area to the west of the historic ships wharf allows smaller craft to dock/tie up. The boardwalk on the NW corner of the peninsula area will accommodate larger boats.
16. There should be a maritime heritage center at the park.
Response: Since the earliest days of planning for the park, the goal of creating a maritime heritage center at South Lake Union has been directly linked to the existence of a nonprofit organization that would fundraise for, design, build and operate such a center. In the absence of such an organization, Parks has moved ahead with developing the park. There are no other major buildings slated for the park, other than those shown: Native American carving shed, longhouse and boat shop. See response to item #18 regarding future maritime heritage developments in the park.
17. Recommend that the areas where the landforms are shown be rejuvenated as a 19th century seaport area
Response: This is not under consideration at this time. See comments below.
18. **4Culture** heartily supports the concept of a waterfront park at South Lake Union, particularly: direct public access to the water, Center for Wooden Boats with its programming for small-scale craft; model ship pond; UIAT (United Indians of All Tribes) facilities; newly completed Historic Ships Wharf. **4Culture** recommends adopting a design that will allow incremental development of the park as a genuine maritime heritage center; permanent and/or temporary moorage for our fleet of authentic large-scale historic ships; practice of routine maintenance on historic ships; visitor access to ships; educational programming, events and activities focused on historic ships; incremental development of the Armory as an experiential maritime heritage facility.
Response: Parks believes the current park design does not preclude any of the above. Much of the programming for the park and Armory will depend on a vibrant, united, multi-faceted maritime heritage community with strong leadership, funding, personnel and community support to put together and operate viable programs.